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APPLICATION OF ORGANIC POLYMER SOLID ELECTROLYTES

Satoshi Sekido
Matsushita Denki Sangyo

1. Introduction

When solid electrolytes are defined as crystalline solids with high ionic conductivity, virtually no polymer materials are contained in that category. When ions are considered, in the broad sense, to be solid material which transport electric charges, polymer materials would be included in that category, and interesting applications which skillfully bring out the inherent properties have been seen. This paper adopts the broad definition from such a perspective. It introduces the current state of application, discusses which properties have been used, and considers future prospects.

2. Current Applications

2.1 Application to sensors

The ion concentration sensor is an example of application to sensors. The structure is as illustrated in Figure 1. In this structure, one side (inside) of a solid electrolytic membrane is exposed to a known solution whose ionic concentration is to be measured, and electrodes are immersed in that solution. This sensor and an electrode (not illustrated in Figure 1. The same type of electrode as a conventional internal electrode is used.) are immersed in the measurement structure, and the ionic concentration C_A to be measured is determined by

$$E = E_0 + (RT/Z_A F) \ln(C_A + \kappa C_B^{2A/2B}) \quad (1)$$

"Numbers in the margin indicate pagination in the foreign text."

upon measurement of the electromotive force E which is generated between two electrodes. In the figure, E_0 is the standard potential (V), R is the gas constant, E_A and E_B are the ionic values of the measured ion and the interfering ion, F is the Faraday constant, and κ is the constant based on the type of membrane termed the selectivity coefficient. The solid electrolyte permits passage only of specific ions, and electromotive force which is dependent on the equilibrium ionic concentration and the movable ions is generated. Table 1 illustrates the relation between the types of detector ions and the electrolyte membrane used as well as the interfering ions used. These organic materials are used when written as liquid ion exchange membranes. Material insoluble in water with a movable exchange substrate which can replace the detector ions is impregnated in a mat and used. In addition, the impregnation of varinomycin, a macrocyclic antibiotic, in glass sintered membranes has been reported to result in selectivity which is approximately 750 times greater while the selectivity of K^+ to Na^+ is approximately 20 in potassium glass [1,2].

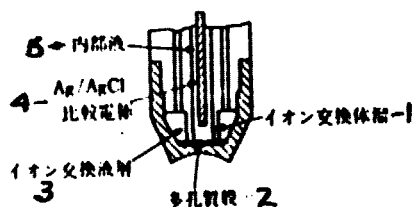
In this way, organic electrolytes have the same action as inorganic salt electrolytes through achievement of an exchange equilibrium with specific ions, and since inorganic substances cannot produce insoluble electrolytes, organic substances are capable of measurement of the ionic concentrations of NO_3^- , BF_4^- , ClO_4^- and Ca^{2+} , which had been previously impossible to measure. Another feature is the high selectivity to K^+ ion concentration.

2.2 Application to Batteries

Two types of batteries are introduced here. The initial example uses lithium as the cathode while a charge-transfer complex of organic material and iodine is used in the anode. Non-ionic poly-2-vinyl pyridine [3] and ionic n-butyl iodide pyridium [4] are used as the organic material. Both complexes

are used in solution, but the former is a polymer which is used as is to raise the viscosity while the latter is used in solid form following adsorption on silica gel. Both cells are formed by direct contact between the anode material and lithium during production, and the structure is simpler than that of cells using solution electrolyte, and thin cells are produced with greater ease. In addition, the output energy density can be raised in comparison to other cells, as illustrated in Table 2, since large amounts of high energy active material can be packed in the volume occupied by the separator. The electrolyte is formed chemically through contact or electrochemically through subsequent discharge. The form in which organic material participates is not yet clear, but the internal resistance is far lower than when the electrolyte is only LiI .

Figure 1. Structure of ion concentration sensor used in solution ion exchange membrane



- 1 ion exchange pool
- 2 porous membrane
- 3 ion exchange solution layer
- 4 Ag/AgCl comparative electrode
- 5 internal solution

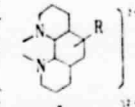
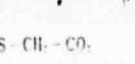
Since solid electrolyte permits passage only of specific ions, when used in batteries, only the reaction required by the battery can be carried out, and a battery with low self discharge

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could be produced. Actually, low values below 5% can be achieved for 10 years in such batteries of 2.5 mm thickness, and low values below 15% can be achieved in batteries of 1.0 mm thickness.

The load current has been markedly reduced with the advent of the c-MOS circuit and liquid crystal display, and features such as higher energy density and lower self discharge have been realized. These have been used as the power source in heart pacemakers, RAM back-ups, electronic watches, and desk-top calculators etc.

Table 1. Principal properties of ion selective membrane electrodes

1 選択イオン	2 膜の組成	3 測定範囲	4 使用温度	5 pH 範囲 応答時間	6 妨害イオン (選択係数)
Na ⁺	ガラス 7 NAS ₁₁₋₁₈	10 ⁻¹ M	0 ~ 60°C		Ag ⁺ > H ⁺ > Na ⁺ > Li ⁺ > K ⁺ > NH ₄ ⁺ Na/K 2800, H/Na 35.7 H ⁺ > Ag ⁺ > K ⁺ , NH ₄ ⁺ > Na ⁺ > Li ⁺ K/Na 20 Ag/H 10 ³ Ag/Na 10 ³
K ⁺	NAS ₁₁₋₁₈ KAS ₁₁₋₁₈	10 ⁻¹ M	"		
Ag ⁺	NAS ₁₁₋₁₈	"	"		
S ²⁻	含浸結晶膜 8	10 ⁻⁵ ~ 10 ⁻¹¹ M	0 ~ 50°C	-pH 12 1 min	CN ⁻ OH ⁻ , Al ³⁺ , Fe ³⁺ (錯形成) 9 CN ⁻ /Cl ⁻ 5×10 ⁴ , I ⁻ /Cl ⁻ 2×10 ⁴ NO ₃ ⁻ /Cl ⁻ 5-9, Br ⁻ /Cl ⁻ 3×10 ³ CN ⁻ /Br ⁻ 1.5×10 ⁴ , I ⁻ /Br ⁻ 5×10 ³ CN ⁻ , S ²⁻ , MnO ₄ ⁻ Hg ²⁺ S ²⁻ , I ⁻ , MnO ₄ ⁻ I ⁻ , Cl ⁻ , 強還元剤 11 Cl ⁻ 10 ⁻³ M 以上妨害 12 * Ag ₂ S 膜を表面に作ると下げられる 13
F ⁻	LaF ₃ , NdF ₃ , PrF ₃	10 ⁻⁶ M	-	-pH 8	
Cl ⁻	AgCl/Ag ₂ S	10 ⁻⁵ ~ 5×10 ⁻⁵ M	0 ~ 50°C	pH 3 ~ 11 2 sec	
Br ⁻	AgBr/Ag ₂ S	10 ⁻⁵ ~ 10 ⁻⁵ M	0 ~ 50°C	pH 1.5 ~ 11.5 2 sec	
I ⁻	AgI/Ag ₂ S	10 ⁻⁵ ~ 10 ⁻⁵ M	0 ~ 50°C	pH 2 ~ 11 20 sec	
Ag ⁺	Ag ₂ S	10 ⁻⁵ ~ 10 ⁻¹¹ M			
CN ⁻	AgX の表面に Ag ₂ S 膜を作る ネレンスニ式から算する X 濃度の 2 倍をとる	10 ⁻² ~ 10 ⁻⁴ M			
SCN ⁻	AgSCN/Ag ₂ S	10 ⁻⁵ ~ 10 ⁻⁵ M			
SO ₄ ²⁻	BaSO ₄	10 ⁻¹ ~ 10 ⁻⁴ M			
Zn ²⁺	混合結晶膜 14	10 ⁻¹ ~ 10 ⁻⁵ M	0 ~ 50°C	30 sec	Na/Cu 5×10 ⁴ , Fe/Cu 140/Hg ²⁺ , Ag ⁺
Cu ²⁺	ZnS+Ag ₂ S	10 ⁻¹ ~ 10 ⁻⁵ M			
Cd ²⁺	CuS+Ag ₂ S	10 ⁻¹ ~ 10 ⁻⁵ M			Ag ⁺ , Cu ²⁺ , Hg ²⁺
Pb ²⁺	CdS+Ag ₂ S	10 ⁻¹ ~ 10 ⁻⁵ M			
2価 カチオン	PbS+Ag ₂ S Ag ₂ S より大きな溶解度をもつ塩+Ag ₂ S				
Cl ⁻	液体イオン交換膜 17	10 ⁻¹ ~ 10 ⁻⁵ M		2 ~ 11	ClO ₄ ⁻ /Cl ⁻ 17, I ⁻ /Cl ⁻ 17, NO ₃ ⁻ /Cl ⁻ 4.2
NO ₃ ⁻	可動交換基 NR ₄ ⁺ Ni  R ⁺	10 ⁻¹ ~ 10 ⁻⁵ M		2 ~ 12	I ⁻ /NO ₃ ⁻ 20, ClO ₄ ⁻ /NO ₃ ⁻ 10 ³ , ClO ₄ ⁻ /NO ₃ ⁻ 7 I ⁻ /BF ₄ ⁻ 20
BF ₄ ⁻	Fe  R ⁺	10 ⁰ ~ 10 ⁻³		4 ~ 10	OH ⁻ /ClO ₄ ⁻ 1.0
ClO ₄ ⁻	R-S-CH ₂ -CO ₂ ⁻	10 ⁻¹ ~ 10 ⁻³		4 ~ 7	Fe ³⁺ /Cu ²⁺ 1400, H ⁺ /Cu ²⁺ 10
Cu ²⁺		10 ⁻² ~ 10 ⁻³		3.5 ~ 7.5	Cu ²⁺ /Pb ²⁺ 2.6
Pb ²⁺		10 ⁻¹ ~ 10 ⁻³			H ⁺ /Ca ²⁺ 10 ³ , Zn ²⁺ /Ca ²⁺ 3.2
Ca ²⁺	RO ₃ PO ₂	10 ⁻¹ ~ 10 ⁻³		5.5 ~ 11	Zn ²⁺ 3.5, Fe ³⁺ 3.5, Cu ²⁺ 3.1, Ni ²⁺ 1.35
Ca & Mg		10 ⁻¹ ~ 10 ⁻³			
18	膜 19 ガラス電極を電解質溶液中に 浸漬し 20 クレアールセ (アクリル, アミド) グロタミン アミノ酸 アミノ酸				

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 selected ion | 2 composition of membrane |
| 3 measurement range | 4 temperature used |
| 5 pH range, response time | 6 interfering ion (selectivity coefficient) |
| 7 glass | |
| 8 impregnated crystalline membrane | |
| 9 (forming complex) | |
| 10 An Ag_2S membrane is formed on the surface of AgX and a value of double the concentration of X determined from the Nernst formula is assumed | |
| 11 strong reduction agent | |
| 12 interference above $\text{Cl}^- 10^{-3}\text{M}$ | |
| 13 *declines when an Ag_2S membrane is formed on the surface | |
| 14 blended crystalline membrane | |
| 15 divalent cation | |
| 16 salt with solubility greater than that of $\text{Ag}_2\text{S} + \text{Ag}_2\text{S}$ | |
| 17 liquid ion exchange membrane movable exchange group | |
| 18 oxygen, glutamine, asparagin, amino acid | |
| 19 oxygen (fixed in matrix covering glass electrode) | |
| 20 urease (acrylamide) | |

2.3 Application to Elements Applying Electrical Double Layer Capacity

Electrodes of carbon or chalcogen compounds of the following metals are formed on both surfaces of Ag^+ or Cu^+ ion conducting solid electrolytes, and conducting ions move in electrolyte when direct current voltage is applied under decomposition voltage of electrodes or electrolyte, resulting in precipitation on the cathode. Anions become excessive near the anode, and a positive charge equivalent to the excess charge accumulates at the anode, forming an electrical double layer.

The equivalent series resistance becomes negligible when electrolyte with high ion conductivity and a low electron transport rate is used. Stabilization to room temperature is conducted by ion exchange of an $\alpha\text{-CuI}$ type structure with high ion conductivity in Ag^+ or Cu^+ ion conducting electrolyte to produce such an electrolyte. Many such organic compounds have been examined, as illustrated in Tables 3, 4 and Figure 4. However, an organic compound with ion conductivity and thermal stability superior to those of inorganic solid electrolytes has not been obtained at present [5-24]. The capacity density of the electrical double layer produced as a result is very great since

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solid electrolytes are composed only of ions. For example, when active carbon electrodes are used in Cu^+ ion conducting electrolytes, values of approximately 30 F/g per unit capacity of electrode are achieved, while the result when Cu_2S electrodes are used is approximately 300 F/g. The oxygen adsorbed on active carbon electrodes contributes slightly in side reactions, but the Faraday reaction tends not to occur although the potential range is narrow in Cu_2S electrodes, and superior potential retention is exhibited. Resistance of the dissolution reaction and precipitation of the opposing electrode pose problems in the case of producing potential recording elements or capacitors applying the electrical double layer capacity, while electrode material which would minimize this has been examined in capacitors, but separate electrodes (standard poles) which are not conducting have been used in potential recording elements [25,26].

Table 2. Comparison of performance of various types of coin cells (diameter 23 mm ϕ , thickness 2.5 mm)

第2表 各種コイン型電池の性能比較 (径23 mm ϕ 厚さ 2.5 mm)

1 電池の種類	Ag ₂ O-Zn	2 有機電解質 Ag ₂ O-Zn リチウム	3 固体電解質 P2VPIIn	BPI ₁₇	
4 開路電圧 (V)	1.5	1.5	3.0	2.8	
5 エネルギー密度 (mWh/cc)	345	480	400~460	470	485
6 自己放電 (%/期間)	13 7~10/年	13 7~10/年	13 5/5年	13 5/10年	13 5/10年
7 最適負荷電流	mA 以上 14	mA 以上 14	数百 μ A 15以下	10 μ A以下 16	10 μ A以下 16
8 耐腐蝕性	17中	中	中	中	18大
9 薄型化の容易さ	17中	中	中	18大	19最大
10 電圧平坦性	○	○	MnO ₂ (CF) ₃ △ ○	△△△	△△△
11 公害性	△△	△△	○	○	○
12 材料コスト	20 高	高	17 中	中	中

1 type of battery
3 solid electrolyte
5 energy density
7 optimum load current
9 ease of making thinner
11 pollution
13 years

2 organic electrolyte lithium
4 open circuit voltage
6 self discharge
8 leakage resistance
10 flatness of voltage
12 cost of material
14 above

15 below several hundred μA 16 below 10 μA
 17 moderate 18 great
 19 greatest 20 high

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Table 3. Organic Ag^+ ion conducting solid electrolytes

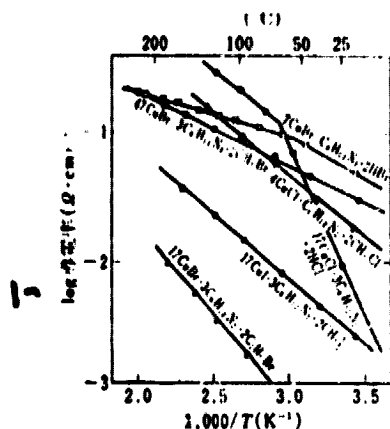
Conductors	mole ratio	stable temp. range ($^{\circ}\text{C}$)	Conductivity (s cm^{-1})	reference
RbAg_2I_3		26 < < 145	0.25~0.27	5)~7)
$n(\text{CH}_3)_4\text{NI} \cdot m\text{AgI}$	13/87 2/13	< 181	0.041~0.046 0.01	7)~10), 16), 17)
$n(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{C}_2\text{H}_4\text{NI} \cdot m\text{AgI}$	13/87		0.064	16)
$n(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_4\text{NI} \cdot m\text{AgI}$	12/88	< 116	0.022~0.025	7)~10), 16), 17)
$n\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{NH}_2 \cdot m\text{AgI}$	1/5 1/8		0.085 0.011	11)~16) 12), 16)
Dimethylpyrrolidium	1/7		0.07	16)
Benzyltrimethylammonium	1/8		0.01	16)
Methane-1,1-bis-methyldiethylammonium	1/6		0.05	16)
Octamethylenetriammonium	3/22		0.06	16)
1-methyl-1-thioniacyclohexane	1/7		0.06	16)
Isopropylidimethylsulphonium	1/7		0.07	16)
n 1-methylpyridinium- $m\text{AgI}$	1/5 1/7		0.016 0.050	12)
n 3-methylpyridinium- $m\text{AgI}$	1/7		0.042	12)
n 2-methylpyridinium- $m\text{AgI}$	1/7		0.040	12)
n 4-NH ₂ -pyridinium- $m\text{AgI}$	1/16		0.026	12)
n 1-C ₂ H ₅ -pyridinium- $m\text{AgI}$	1/7 1/8		0.020 0.012	12)
$n(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{SI} \cdot m\text{AgI}$	1/6	< 198	0.01	17)
$n(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{S}(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{S}(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{I} \cdot m\text{AgI}$	7/93	< 116	0.01	17)
n Quinoline III- $m\text{AgI}$	1/8		0.015	12)
n isoquinoline III- $m\text{AgI}$	1/8		0.017	12)

3. Role of Polymer Electrolytes

The role of polymer electrolytes will be singled out from the aforementioned applications. First, even if there are many coexisting ions due to selective ion transmission, a sensor which responds only to specific ions therein would be identical with inorganic substances in terms of high purity, high density electrolysis, water treatment or production of a battery with little self discharge. Measurement of ions which could not be measured in inorganic substances is possible by producing material which does not dissolve in an aqueous solvent, and a membrane with high sensitivity and high selectivity can be produced. Rapid movement of ions in electrolyte is required in electrolysis, batteries or elements applying electrical double layers. Many attempts at ion exchange using organic macroions have been made to produce materials with such high ionic conductivity, but at present, only materials which are somewhat inferior to inorganic materials in terms of ionic conductivity and thermal stability have been produced. The reasons for the inferiority of ionic conductivity include the fact that only crystals with a high site occupation rate and high number of mobile ions have been produced, and interference of shift of mobile ions by massive organic cations [17]. Recently, attention has been directed to reports of halogen conductivity in complexes of crown ether or straight chain polymer ether and metal halides which are firmly linked with cations, thereby weakening the bond with anions [27,28]. Among these, complexes of dibenzo 18 cap 6 ether and LiX have the greatest conductivity with Cl^- among halogens as seen in Table 4, and have conductivity of $4.38 \times 10^{-4} \text{scm}^{-1}$ even at room temperature. High ionic conductivity may be realized through polymers if the effect of complex formation rather than simple ion exchange is added.

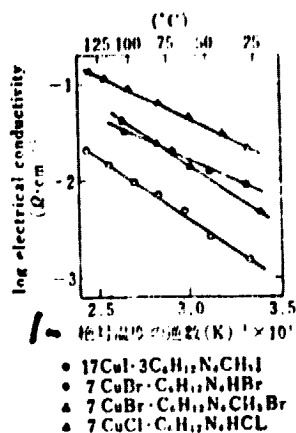
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Figure 2. Conductivity of CuX-halide alkyl triethylene diamine Cu^+ ion conducting electrolyte



$l = \log$ of conductivity

Figure 3. Conductivity of CuX-halide alkyl hexamethylene tetramine Cu^+ ion conducting electrolyte



$l = \log$ arithm of absolute temperature $(K)^{-1} \times 10^3$

Table 4. Organic halogen conducting solid electrolyte

Salt	Conductivity at 25°C(s cm ⁻¹)
LiF	8.05×10^{-8}
LiCl	4.38×10^{-4}
LiBr	1.59×10^{-4}
LiI	5.51×10^{-6}

4. Conclusion

The production of ion conducting materials using polymers and their application have just begun along with research in affiliated regions. Phenomena related to ions which are of considerable interest have been seen in bio-polymer membranes, although not touched upon in this paper. Polymer electrolyte of necessity would be produced, with expansion of unique applications as this research proceeds.

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